

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on Page 1, line 10 as follows:

Various proposals have been made so far on polymerization catalysts for conjugated dienes, and the polymerization catalysts play a very important role in industrial fields. In particular, various polymerization catalysts which provide a high cis-1,4-linkage content have been studied and developed to obtain conjugated diene polymers with enhanced performance in thermal and mechanical characteristics. For example, complex catalyst systems containing as a main component a compound of a transition metal such as nickel, cobalt, and titanium are known, and some of them have already been widely used in industrial applications as polymerization catalysts for butadiene, isoprene, etc. (see, ~~End-Ing.~~Ind. Eng. Chem., 48, 784, 1956; JP 37-008198 B).